



CITY OF CHICOPEE

PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



STANLEY J. WALCZAK, C.P.R.P.
Superintendent

RICHARD G. MACIOLEK
Assistant Superintendent

Minutes of the regular meeting held on December 9, 2008

Commissioners present were Chairman Gary Ziemba, Vice Chairman Robert Erhardt, Secretary Elizabeth Montemagni, and Commissioners Phyllis Fritsch and Doug Girouard. Also present was Superintendent Stanley J. Walczak and Assistant Superintendent Richard Maciolek.

Chairman Ziemba called meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fritsch, to approve the November 10, 2008 regular meeting minutes as written.

Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fritsch, to receive, place on file or take the appropriate action on the following communications.

Communications:

1. Thank you card from C.H.S. Soccer team.
2. Letter from Atty. Kevin Corridan.
3. E-Mail from Steve Sanocki.
4. Letter from Anna Barry School.

Tom Rivet, coach of the C.H.S. Boys Soccer team, sent a thank you card to the Department expressing their gratitude for the excellent condition of their soccer fields this fall.

Assistant Superintendent Maciolek reported that more information was needed by the City's Law Department to seek recovery of monies owed to the department by an outside travel group. Assistant Superintendent Maciolek will send another package with more clarification for the Law Department to review.

The Commission tabled a request by Steve Sanocki for a skatepark at Ike Alpert Park. Superintendent Walczak will speak with the Mayor about the proposal and whether there are any funds available for this project.

Motion by Ms. Montemagni, seconded by Ms. Fritsch, to approve a request by Barry School to name the 90 foot baseball diamond as R. Purves Reardon Field in honor of the

late school principal. The Superintendent will send a letter to the school requesting a detailed plan of what their designs are for dedicating this facility.

Superintendent Walczak reported that the old rink boards at Fred Krampits Skating Rink have been removed and new boards to be built by the Chicopee Comp Career Tech students will be constructed during the winter season. Also, the new soccer kickboard for the park should be completed during the upcoming week.

The Board of Aldermen have passed an appropriation submitted by Mayor Bissonnette in the amount of \$9,520. to fix a leaky roof and to repair a heating unit for the back of the office building. Motion by Mr. Girouard, seconded by Mr. Erhardt, to send a letter to Mayor Bissonnette regarding a report on the poor condition of the 18 year old units atop the Parks Administrative Building. The report indicates that there are serious problems with both units which may not be operational after this winter.

Superintendent Walczak reported that additional signage has been added to several Szot Park locations to assist local police with enforcing park rules and curfews.

The Department has spent considerable time this winter with installing Christmas decorations and lighted and regular wreaths in downtown Chicopee. Additionally, the Department employees decorated the old Library inside for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting events on Friday, December 5.

Motion by Mr. Erhardt, seconded by Ms. Fritsch, to approve the new Opee Summer Adventures recommendations for implementation this summer. Notification of the new proposals will be announced to the general public after January 5, 2009.

The Commission approved additional trip policy recommendations by the Superintendent as it pertains to project margins for the department, joint approval for canceling a trip, utilizing department staff first to chaperone a trip before allowing outside individuals and closer examination of trip details and bus arrangements when trips are approved.

Youth Basketball Schedules prepared by Recreation Supervisor Dan Woodill was presented to the Commission for their review.

The Department will be applying for a Gateway Grant through the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs for possible improvements to one of the city's parks.

Superintendent Walczak reported that the Department is being asked to submit 3 budgets which reflect no increases except for negotiated raises as well as budgets with 8% and 15% cuts. Superintendent Walczak also indicated that the new regulations mandated by the Federal Government will require all pools to be installed with anti-vortex drains to prevent suction entrapment. The Department has four Olympic size pools and two wading pools that will require these new drain covers.

Motion by Ms. Fritsch, seconded by Mr. Erhardt, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held at the call of the Chairman.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Montemagni
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Secretary

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